

Senate Resolution 158

By: Senators Harp of the 29th, Cowser of the 46th, Wiles of the 37th, Staton of the 18th,
Davenport of the 44th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Michael Vollmer on the occasion of his retirement; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as a Georgia public servant, Michael Vollmer had the unique opportunity to
4 serve five Governors and work directly for the last four; and

5 WHEREAS, Governor Joe Frank Harris appointed Michael Vollmer to be the executive
6 director of the Commission on Drug Awareness and Prevention where he coordinated \$46
7 million in federal funds for education about the dangers of drug use and for the treatment of
8 drug dependency; and

9 WHEREAS, Governor Zell Miller appointed Michael Vollmer to be the first executive
10 director of the HOPE Scholarship Program, which today has assisted more than one million
11 Georgia students to further their postsecondary education; and

12 WHEREAS, following Michael Vollmer's success in directing the implementation of the
13 HOPE Scholarship Program, Governor Miller appointed him to jump-start Georgia's lottery
14 funded pre-kindergarten program by naming him executive director of the Office of School
15 Readiness, where under his leadership it became the largest state-wide pre-kindergarten
16 program in the nation serving more than 60,000 children in 1,400 public and private
17 preschools and was awarded Harvard University's prestigious Innovation in Government
18 Award; and

19 WHEREAS, Governor Roy Barnes named Michael Vollmer to be the first executive director
20 of the Office of Education Accountability, embarking on the most comprehensive education
21 accountability system in the nation, measuring student achievement for Georgia's 1.7 million
22 students; and

1 WHEREAS, Michael Vollmer enhanced his most notable career in education by serving as
2 the interim presidents at both Middle Georgia College and Clayton State University and was
3 named president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in 2001; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2004 Governor Sonny Perdue chose Michael Vollmer to serve as
5 commissioner of the Department of Technical and Adult Education, where he provided a
6 steady hand and outstanding leadership for the presidents, faculty, and staff of the 34 colleges
7 of the Technical College System of Georgia and more than 145,000 technical college
8 students; and

9 WHEREAS, throughout his career as a dedicated servant to the people of Georgia, Michael
10 Vollmer has provided expert guidance on state policy decisions in education, economic
11 development, health care, and criminal justice; and his honesty, tireless work ethic, and
12 excellent reputation have crossed all party lines.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
14 join in recognizing Michael Vollmer on an outstanding career in state government,
15 commending him for his many generous contributions to the State of Georgia, and wishing
16 him an extraordinarily fulfilling retirement.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
18 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Michael Vollmer.